

Some of the private hospitals which were empanelled earlier did not accept the rates offered to them and have decided to opt out of the CGHS empanelment. The procedure for empanelment is now a continuous process and any private hospital/diagnostic centre fulfilling the conditions can apply at any time for empanelment.

Upgradation of Indira Gandhi Medical College, Nagpur

†335. SHRI DATTAMEGHE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central and State Government are having any scheme to upgrade Indira Gandhi Medical College at Nagpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount provided for the same and whether the said amount has been released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) it has been decided to upgrade 13 existing medical institutions in various parts of the country. In so far as the State of Maharashtra is concerned, the State Government has identified Grants Medical College and Sir J.J. Group of Hospitals, Mumbai for upgradation. At present there is no proposal to upgrade Indira Gandhi Medical College at Nagpur.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Increase of polio cases

336. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is spurt of polio cases in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the WHO cautioned Government about the spread of polio to new pockets of the country;

(c) if so, the details of (a) and (b) above;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether it is also a fact that 23 polio deaths have been reported in the country last year;

(e) whether Government have redefined the high-risk zones;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) what measures his ministry are taking to cover all the children in the Pulse Polio Immunization Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There was decline number of polio cases from 225 in 2003 to 66 in 2005. However there is a spurt of polio cases in western Uttar Pradesh in 2006, which has further spread not only to other parts of Uttar Pradesh and but also to States like Haryana, Punjab, Chandigarh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. So far, 531 polio cases have been reported from the country out of which 443 cases are from Uttar Pradesh.

The Epidemiological situation of polio was reviewed by India Expert Advisory Group (IEAG) on 4-5th May 2006 and they observed that "while the Feb and April rounds have shown improvements in most district, including Moradabad, uneven quality of Supplementary immunization Activities (SIAs) together with the factor favoring transmission of wild poliovirus in western UP (high population density, poor sanitation and high Non Polio Enterovirus (NPEV) rates, etc) can allow transmission to continue."

(d) No, Sir only one death from 66 polio cases in 2005 was reported.

(e) and (f) The Government has prioritize high risk areas based on several criteria such as:-

- Recent wild polio virus transmission.
- Poor quality of SIA activities based on monitoring indicators.
- Underserved population.

(g) In order to cover all the eligible children with Pulse Polio Immunization following measures are taken:-

- Information Education and Communication (IEC) and Social Mobilization activities are being intensified by involving the local

community participation and acceptance of polio vaccine by all children below 5 years of age.

- Transit booths are being established at major railway stations, moving trains, bus stops and market places to cover the transiting children.
- Bi-phasic house to house activities are being carried out in the evening to cover the children missed during first visit.
- Services of ASHA and AWW is being used to mobilize the missed children of the village and vaccinate them on monthly health day.

Treatment of accident victims

337. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to enact a law to compel hospitals and doctors to attend to accident victims;

(b) whether Government are aware that hospitals in private sector do not attend the victims of accidents due to legal problems; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government against such hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Section 134 (a) of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 already provides that "it shall be the duty of every registered medical practitioner or the doctor on the duty in the hospitals immediately to attend to the injured person and render medical aid or treatment without waiting for any procedural formalities".

At present there is no proposal for enacting another legislation to compel the hospitals and doctors to attend the accident victims.

Funds allocation to Thiruvananthapuram Medical College

338. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Thiruvananthapuram Medical College has finally been selected for the development of the same as a Medical Institution of Excellence;